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From: [webmaster@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:webmaster@shorelinewa.gov)

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 1:58:37 PM

To: [agenda comments](#); [Mark Apolar](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Comments

Sensitivity: Normal

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A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

**Form Name:** Comment on Agenda Items  
**Date & Time:** 08/10/2020 1:58 pm  
**Response #:** 613  
**Submitter ID:** 38167  
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**Time to complete:** 4 min. , 39 sec.

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**Survey Details: Answers Only**

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1. Vinay Venkatesh
2. Shoreline
3. (o) Richmond Highlands
4. vinayvnaik@gmail.com
5. 08/10/2020
6. Study Item 9 (a) Goal 5, Action 7
7. This is regarding the Study Item 9. (a) Update on City Council Goal #5, Action Step #7 - Setting a Shelter/Navigation Center in North King County to Serve Homeless Single Adults.

Shoreline and King County needs to address the growing homelessness problem is Seattle. This is a pressing problem that needs a systemic solution that addresses the root cause of the problem, and provides our civic agencies the right infrastructure to handle transient homelessness. However, I oppose the proposal to build a homeless shelter in the specified location. Such decisions are should not be made in isolation (i.e. land availability to meet a short-term goal) and should be viewed in a holistic terms - location, direct and indirect costs, long-term benefits to the homeless community, and impact to the neighborhood. I highly encourage the council to consider alternate locations that delivers the benefit to homeless people without degrading growth opportunities for the city. I oppose the choice of location on the following grounds:

This location makes for an expensive short-term solution without long-term benefit: The proposed location is expensive real estate so setting up a shelter that can only accommodate 60 beds will result in a very expensive per-bed cost. I would rather have our city and county invest the same money in less-expensive location so we can build a bigger facility, and have the ability to expand the facility to accommodate more people in the future. In addition, I dont think this is the right location for Shoreline as a city.

This location hurts Shoreline city prospects in the long-run: Every city needs a thriving downtown and retail establishments that attract population and drive commerce. Creating a homeless shelter bang in the middle of what is set to be the Shoreline downtown will make our city less-attractive for retail establishments which will in-turn hurt future growth prospects for the city and degrade tax revenues in the long-run.

This location is a safety risk for children, school and the immediate community: Its an established fact that a 60 bed facility will not solve homelessness problem in itself. With more homeless people looking to use the facility than beds, they will be forced to be on wait lines that will drive more homeless people towards community, often camping around the facility, on the pavements in the immediate neighborhood, or in public facilities like the near-by Shorewood High School, or Richmond Highland Park. In addition, this facility is set up for singles instead of families so the rest of the community is put at risk.

For what its worth, I am happy to vote for an increase in property taxes or individual tax for King County or Shoreline City to create additional funds for systemically address and provide for long-term solve for homelessness in our community. That's the real way to show support for the cause.

Thanks,  
Vinay

8. (o) Oppose

Thank you,  
City of Shoreline

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